



13DV-14029
PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

#1312

Applicant: Mesing et al.

Serial No.: 09/821,570 ✓

Filed: March 29, 2001

For: VARIABLE VANE SEAL AND WASHER
MATERIALS

Art Unit: 3726

Examiner: Compton, E.

9007 117/03

AMENDMENT

RECEIVED
JUL 15 2003
TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated April 9, 2003, please amend the above-identified patent application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

11. (three times amended) A method for manufacturing a bearing element comprising the steps of:

forming a plurality of layers from a combination of a first material and a second material, wherein a first of said layers formed from a plurality of materials comprising at least one of polytetrafluoroethylene fibers, glass fibers, carbon fibers, and combinations thereof, and wherein a second of said layers is formed against the first layer and is formed from a single material;

forming the bearing element from the plurality of layers;

plasma etching each of the bearing element plurality of layers; and

21